

Mike DeWine, Governor Jon Husted, Lt. Governor Laurie A. Stevenson, Director

June 24, 2022

Ms. Jodie Opie opie.jodie@epa.gov

Re: Euclid NPDES permit OH0031062 Public Hearing Comments

Ohio EPA is hereby submitting written comments regarding the public comment and hearing on USEPA's specific objection to the NPDES permit renewal for the City of Euclid WWTP, Ohio NPDES permit OH0031062. These comments are in the form of our power point slides presented during the virtual hearing held on June 8, 2022.

My legal team and staff from the Division of Surface Water presented strong legal, technical, and policy arguments to withdraw this Specific Objection to our draft NPDES permit for Euclid. Ohio has been a Clean Water Act delegated program for decades, and we take our role very seriously. This Specific Objection puts Ohio's credibility into question, and our comments explain why we think this was done in error. We also explained our commitment to Lake Erie, particularly to address non-point source phosphorus loading that drives harmful algal bloom impairments in the Western Lake Erie Basin that migrate over to the Central Basin.

If there is anything in our comments that spurs additional questions from you or your team, we remain open to scheduling additional time to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Laurie Stevenson

Director, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency